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-file 112

CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Halle

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 19 February 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Between 21 December 1950 and 7 January 1951, the billeting area of the Luftnachrichten Schule and the Fliegerhorst Kaserne, Halle (M 52/D 92), was occupied by not less than 2,500 troops. Most of the troops seen at the Luftnachrichten Schule wore red-bordered black epaulets, some wore black epaulets, including a few with signal insignia. Since many officers were seen at the Luftnachrichten Schule the northern section of the installation housed a head-
quarters, (1)
The majority of the personnel in the Luftnachrichten Schule were recruits. Troops observed in the Fliegerhorst-Kaserne wore red-bordered black epaulets, NCOs with tank insignia, and some others with black-bordered red epaulets. Most of the soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets were recruits. the Fliegerhorst Kaserne quartered a tank and mortar unit. (2) SP guns and T-34 tank were used for the training of student drivers in the area of the Brandberge (hills). A unit of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying telephone equipment was seen marching into the billeting area. There was little vehicular traffic.

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2. The Plak Kaserne, Voermilitz, quartered about 2,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank and artillery insignia. A few officers seen there wore black-bordered red epaulets. Most of the enlisted

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personnel were recruits. About 30 tanks were seen through the windows of the garages in the northern section of the billeting area. On 4 January 1951, not less than 300 recruits wearing red-bordered black epaulets received training in firing with rifles, including 30 with telescopic sights, submachine guns, and light machine guns at the target range south of the Saale River.

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Student drivers were trained. AA guns were no longer emplaced at the southern tip of the billeting area.

3. A column of soldiers which left the Reil Kaserne for the post theater on 21 December 1950 consisted of an 18-man band, five units of about 70 men each, and two units of 35 to 40 men each. Each unit was led by two officers and included many NCOs. All troops wore red-bordered green epaulets without branch-of-service insignia. When the column arrived at the post theater, the soldiers were addressed by a lieutenant colonel or a colonel, who rode in passenger car. No special activities were observed at the Reil Kaserne on 4 January 1951.

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4. About noon on 7 January 1951, 20 officers with black-bordered red epaulets, one officer with red-bordered green epaulets, and women and children with baggage arrived at the main railroad station of Halle, riding on trucks. A lieutenant colonel was the ranking officer. The officers were bidden farewell by a colonel who wore black-bordered red epaulets and rode in passenger car and by some Soviet civilians who rode in passenger car. During a discussion in front of the timetable, one officer was overheard to say that the shipment was bound for Weimar. (7)

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Comments.

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- (1) the statement that the Luftnachrichten Schule housed a headquarters confirms the Hq 21st Gds Mezz Div in Halle until 7 January 1951. However in mid-November 1950 a division headquarters seemed to be located in the eastern section of the billeting area, in a building at which many officers were observed entering and leaving.
- (2) it is possible that the Fliegerhorst Kaserne quarters the 19th Gds Hvy Tank Sp Regt and the 136th Gds Mort Regt of the 21st Gds Mezz Div. Previous reports also indicated that these two units were stationed in the billeting area of the Luftnachrichten Schule and the Fliegerhorst Kaserne.
- (3) unidentified Gds Mtrcl Bn, possibly the 114th, or the 21st Gds Mezz Div in Halle until 9 November 1950.
- (4) The occupation of the Flak Kaserne has not changed compared with previous reports.

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(5)

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(7)

The officers with their families probably went to Weimar, where a trainload of dependents due for repatriation to the U.S.S.R. may have been assembled.

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